

1972 Postal Guide

Norway “How to” Guide, Beginner Level: Instruction

November 2015

GOAL

This guide will teach you how to identify the parish and county of a given farm.

INTRODUCTION

Norwegian family history research is primarily done using parish registers. In order to identify the appropriate parish registers for your research you will need to know the name of the parish and county to which your ancestors' farm belonged. Therefore, *Norsk stedsfortegnelse*, referred to here as the 1972 postal guide, is a valuable reference. This gazetteer is used in Norwegian research to identify the parish and county of a farm.

HOW TO

Please read the following article about gazetteers used in Norwegian family history research.

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Norway_Gazetteers

When using this gazetteer, please remember that some names are used by multiple farms, and each farm will be listed with its parish. When this is the case, you may have to search more than one parish to find your ancestor. Keep in mind that the standard spelling used in this gazetteer may differ slightly from the spelling used in the records of your ancestors.

The 1972 postal guide lists the name of the town or farm, followed by the name of the parish and then the postal code or abbreviation for the county. A list of the counties followed by their codes or abbreviations can be found on the first page of the postal guide.

The 1972 postal guide is available online via the following link:

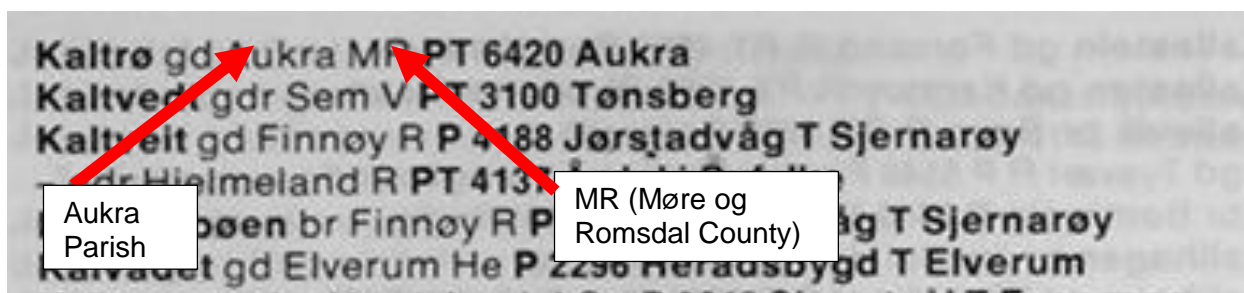
<http://da2.uib.no/cgi-win/WebBok.exe?slag=lesbok&bokid=nsf>

The following steps will help you navigate the website:

- Select “Vis Innholdslista” (table of contents) at the top of the homepage.
- This will take you to the alphabetical drop down boxes. The Norwegian letters Æ, Ø, Å, are at the end of the alphabet. Choose the first letter of the farm name.

- The drop down box will let you choose the page you need. The name of the first and last farms on the page are listed. Select the page that should contain the name of your farm.
- You should now see the actual book page. Now you can find your farm name.
- To zoom in and out, click on the drop down menu next to the word “Storleik”, and select the zoom percentage. The default is set at 100%.
- To go forward or backward one page at a time, use the “Førre side” (previous page) and “Neste side” (next page) buttons.
- The farm name will be bolded. The unbolded text next to the farm name is an abbreviation of the type of location (i.e. farm, school, estate), followed by the name of the parish and the county abbreviation.
- To find the codes for each county, as well as a list of the abbreviations used to describe the type of location, go the top of the page and click on “Framsida” (front page). On the front page choose “Første side” (first page). This will bring you to the list of *Forkortelser* (abbreviations). The county codes are listed first, followed by the type of location. Notice the name of the county is listed first followed by the abbreviation or code. The counties are not listed in alphabetical order.

The following example is of the farm Kaltrø. Notice the farm **Kaltrø**, in bold, at the top left. It indicates that Kaltrø is a farm (gd) in **Aukra** Parish, **MR** (Møre og Romsdal) County. Disregard everything following the county name in bold.



Source: <http://da2.uib.no/cgi-win/WebBok.exe?slag=lesside&bokid=nsf&sideid=176&innhaldid=11&storleik=> : accessed 15 January 2016.

PRACTICE

To identify the parish information for the farm of Ormbrekk, follow these directions:

1. Go to the website for the 1972 Postal Guide by typing in or clicking on this link:
<http://da2.uib.no/cgi-win/WebBok.exe?slag=lesbok&bokid=nsf>
2. Select “Vis innholdslista” at the top of the page.

3. Open the drop down box for the letter “O”.
4. Select “Side 580-581 Orekasa”.
5. Find “Ormbrekk”.
6. After “Ormbrekk” the unbolded portion of the entry reads “gd Tokke Te”. This tells us that the parish was Tokke, and the county code is Te.
7. To determine the name of the county, select “Framsida” at the top left of the page.
8. Next select “Første side” from the top right. This will take you to the abbreviations page.
9. The abbreviations page states that Te is the county code for Telemark, and that the abbreviation “gd” which follows Ormbrekk indicates that it is a *gard*, or farm.

ACTIVITY

Now, test your skills you have learned in this “How to” Guide. The Activity is a way to check your knowledge and let you know you’ve mastered the Guide! [Click here](#) to try out the Activity.